

MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP

PROTECTIVE SERVICE OCCUPATIONS

About six out of 10 *Protective Service* jobs are middle-skilled. The top three middle-skill *Protective Service* occupations with the most annual total openings are *Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers*, *Firefighters*, and *Correctional Officers and Jailers*. These three occupations combined are projected to have more than 1,900 annual job openings through 2032.

Top Middle-Skill Protective Service Occupations by Annual Openings

Occupations	2022 Estimated Employment	2032 Projected Employment	Annual Openings		2023 Average Wage
			Difference	Total	
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	13,047	13,552	50	1,059	\$59,020
Firefighters	5,569	5,816	25	446	\$49,380
Correctional Officers and Jailers	5,543	5,031	-51	405	\$40,750
First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives	3,502	3,627	12	244	\$82,290
Detectives and Criminal Investigators	1,630	1,711	8	130	\$80,910
First-Line Supervisors of Firefighting and Prevention Workers	1,739	1,816	8	115	\$84,200
First-line Supervisors of Security Workers	997	1,008	1	92	\$62,590
Private Detectives and Investigators	766	817	5	77	\$55,960
First-Line Supervisors of Correctional Officers	1,050	985	-6	75	\$48,560
Gambling Surveillance Officers and Gambling Investigators	358	334	-2	44	\$36,620

Skill requirements for occupations can be divided into *common skills* and *specialized skills*. Common skills are applicable across many different industries and occupations and are also known as “soft” skills. The top common skills for *Protective Service* occupations include *Customer Service* and *Communications*. Specialized skills are more specific to an occupation and are also known as “technical” or “hard” skills. The top specialized skills for *Protective Service* occupations include *Emergency Response* and *Law Enforcement*.

The top qualification for *Protective Service* occupations is a driver’s license, which is useful for a wide range of jobs. Other qualifications are more specific to certain *Protective Service* occupations, such as a *Security Clearance* and *TS/SCI Clearance*.

Top Skills	
Top Common Skills	Top Specialized Skills
Customer Service	Emergency Response
Communications	Law Enforcement
Problem Solving	Access Controls
Professionalism	Site Security
Management	Conflict Resolution

Top Certifications
Valid Driver's License
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification
First Aid Certification
Top Secret-Sensitive Compartmented Information (TS/SCI Clearance)
Security Clearance

Lightcast™